

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 31, 2008. Claims 1, 3, 4, 11, 13, 14, 21, 23, 24 and 31 to 33 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 11 and 21 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim 11 was objected to for an informality. Claim 11 having been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4, 11, 14, 21 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 7,061,632 (Livingston). Claims 3, 13 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Livingston in view of WO 2002/82362 (Petz; U.S. Published Appln. No. 2004/0187087 used in lieu of English translation). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to an information processing apparatus having a generation function of generating print data to be transmitted to a printer. The apparatus includes an entire print setting unit configured to set an entire color mode to be applied to entire document data as a setting value for an item to set a color mode; a partial print setting unit configured to set a partial color mode to be applied to a predetermined unit of the document data as a setting value for the item; and a print data generating unit configured to generate the print data so that the printer prints a print material on which the partial color mode is applied to the predetermined unit and the entire color mode is applied to the remaining portion of the document data for which the partial color mode is not

applied. Both the entire color mode and the partial color mode are set as setting values for the item.

Applicant respectfully submits that the applied reference, namely Livingston, is not seen to disclose or to suggest all of the features of independent Claim 1. In particular, Livingston is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of setting an entire color mode to be applied to an entire document data as a setting value for an item to set a color mode, setting a partial color mode to be applied to a predetermined unit of the document data as a setting value for the item, and generating the print data so that the printer prints a print material on which the partial color mode is applied to the predetermined unit and the entire color mode is applied to the remaining portion of the document data for which the partial color mode is not applied, wherein both the entire color mode and the partial color mode are set as the setting value for the item.

In contrast to the present invention, Livingston discloses a method for selective application of imaging related options to arbitrary pages. The selected feature is applied to the selected page or pages. According to Livingston, a setting value is set for a setting item, then the user is allowed to select pages to which the setting value is applied. Therefore, Livingston discloses that a program module passes the values of variables in a data structure to a printer driver so that an imaging operation can be performed on a per page basis. Thus, in Livingston, setting values are passed to a printer driver for selected pages. However, Livingston fails to disclose a basic setting combined with an exceptional setting. Therefore, Livingston cannot possibly disclose an entire color mode to be applied to an entire document data as a setting value for an item to set a color mode, setting a partial color mode to be applied to a predetermined unit of the document data as a setting value for the item, and generating the print data so that the

printer prints a print material on which the partial color mode is applied to the predetermined unit and the entire color mode is applied to the remaining portion of the document data for which the partial color mode is not applied, wherein both the entire color mode and the partial color mode are set as the setting value for the item, as featured in Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claims 11 and 21 are directed to a print data generating method and a computer-readable medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the apparatus of Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 11 is also now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each dependent claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

CONCLUSION

No claim fees are believed due; however, should it be determined that additional claim fees are required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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